

Item:	<u>RESO 08-128</u>
Fiscal Impact:	<u>N/A</u>
Funding Source:	<u>N/A</u>
Account #:	<u>N/A</u>
Budget Opening Required:	<u>N/A</u>

ISSUE:

The Utah Cultural Celebration Center gallery is hosting an exhibit of original art works from China, entitled **“From the Masses to the Masses: Art of the Yan’an Cave Artists Group”**. The exhibit will run from May 9 through June 18th, 2008. The collection is owned by local documentary film maker Dodge Billingsley who presents the exhibit in collaboration with the BYU Kennedy Center for International Studies. Rich in the folk traditions of rural peasant artists, this historical exhibit highlights the impact of politics on artists and their art during Mao’s China. The agreement between West Valley City and the exhibit owner is being submitted for Council review and approval.

SYNOPSIS:

The exhibit consists of original art works that were acquired in numerous trips to China between 1999-2005. The collection is valued at approx. \$500,000. A free public opening and related film screening is being held Friday, May 9th, from 6-8:30pm. A sneak-preview opening will be held on Thursday April 8th, in partnership with the Utah Arts Council as part of their annual statewide conference that is being held at the UCCC facility. An audience of about 500 people is expected that evening. The UCCC will also host guided educational tours for student groups as well as offering an ARTrageous Tuesday program connected with the exhibit.

BACKGROUND:

The UCCC first became associated with Dodge Billingsley, the collection owner, in connection with the Chinese “Silk Road” exhibit at the UCCC in 2006. At that time, he expressed a desire to exhibit this historically significant collection here. There is no fee paid to the collection owner. Insurance coverage will be provided for the collection while it is housed in the UCCC facility under the limits of West Valley City’s URMMA policy. No additional coverage is anticipated.

RECOMMENDATION:

The UCCC staff recommends the City Council pass the resolution.

SUBMITTED BY:

Susan Klinker, UCCC